

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

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DRAFTED BY AF/E:GWSCOTT:NB

APPROVED BY AF/E:MULCAHY

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NSC MR HORAN

S/S MR ORTIZ

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R 242319Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 018877

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (LINE OF TEXT OMITTED PARA 2)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SO, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT SIAD'S MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT FORD

1. EMBASSY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT FINANCE SECRETARY NUR
HERSI DEPARTED WASHINGTON WITHOUT DELIVERING SIAD'S LETTER.
HOWEVER, HE LEFT LETTER WITH AMBASSADOR ADDOU FOR SUBSE-
QUENT DELIVERY. ACCORDING TO ADDOU, NUR HERSI IS DUE
BACK IN MOGADISCIO IN APPROXIMATELY TEN DAYS.

2. WHEN ADDOU FIRST INFORMED US THAT HERSI WAS CARRYING
LETTER FOR PRESIDENT, WE SUGGESTED THAT IT BE DELIVERED TO
HIGH-LEVEL STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL. SINCE THIS ARRANGE-
MENT NOT SATISFACTORY TO HERSI, WHO CLAIMED HE BOUND BY HIS
INSTRUCTIONS TO DELIVER LETTER PERSONALLY TO PRESIDENT,
DEPT REQUESTED PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT. GIVEN SHORT
NOTICE AND EXTREMELY CROWDED SCHEDULE OF PRESIDENT DURING
WEEK IN WHICH

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HE GAVE STATE OF UNION ADDRESS AND SUBMITTED FY 1977 BUDGET
TO CONGRESS, PRESIDENT WAS UNABLE TO RECEIVE SOMALI MINIS-

TER. IN THE ABSENCE OF SECRETARY AND DEPUTY SECRETARY FROM WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT'S NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR BRENT SCOWCROFT, AGREED TO MEET WITH HERSI TO RECEIVE LETTER. HERSI DECLINED THIS OFFER ON BASIS HIS "STRICT" INSTRUCTIONS TO SEE PRESIDENT.

3. ARRANGEMENTS HAVE JUST BEEN MADE FOR ADDOU TO DELIVER LETTER TO SCOWCROFT AT 4:00 PM TODAY. WE WILL INFORM EMBASSY OF SUBSTANCE OF LETTER AS SOON AS KNOWN.

4. COMMENT. WE ARE NOT CERTAIN WHAT REPORT HERSI WILL GIVE PRESIDENT SAID UPON HIS RETURN. ADDOU SAID THAT HERSI, WHO GENUINELY WANTS TO SEE IMPROVEMENT IN US-SOMALI RELATIONS, WAS APPRECIATIVE OF EFFORTS MADE HERE IN MINISTER'S BEHALF AND UNDERSTANDING OF PRESIDENT'S INABILITY TO RECEIVE HIM DUE PRESS OF OTHER BUSINESS. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THIS IS ADDOU'S OWN CHARACTERISTICALLY FAVORABLE INTERPRETATION OF SITUATION OR IF IT ACCURATELY REFLECTS HERSI'S OWN VIEW. IN ANY CASE ADDOU APPEARS SATISFIED AT THIS POINT. INGERSOLL

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